in the terrorists' shoot-out thereby averting an unimaginable disaster. His selfless and courageous deed has thus set an example for others to emulate and all of us feel proud.

We deeply mourn the passing away of Shri Matbar Singh.

I request Members to rise in their places and observe silence as a mark of respect to the memory of the departed.

(Hon. Members then stood in silence for one minute.)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Secretary-General will convey to the members of the bereaved families our sense of profound sorrow and deep sympathy.

DISPENSING WITH QUESTION HOUR

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, there will be no Question Hour today. After laying of Papers on the Table, there will be a statement by the Leader of the House on the terrorist attack on Parliament House on the 13th December, 2001.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED AND UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Patents for research work

†*381. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether patents are applied by scientists doing research work in the country;

(b) if so, the number of applications seeking patents received during 1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2000-2001, by the scientists doing research work, year-wise; and

(c) the number of patents approved during each of the above year?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) In India, patents are granted to all eligible persons, whether individuals or institutions, who desire to seek protection of their inventions, in accordance with the provisions of the Patents Act, 1970. The Patent Office maintains information about patent applications in two basic categories, that is, Indian and foreign.

(b) and (c) The details of patent applications filed by Indian applicants in the last three years is indicated below:—

Year	Applications filed
1998-99	2247
1999-2000	2206
2000-2001	2179

The details of patents granted to Indian applicants in the last three years is indicated below:—

Year	Patents granted
1998-99	645
1999-2000	557
2000-2001	399

This data is inclusive of applications filed and patents granted to Indian scientific institutions such as Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), Defence Research Development Organisation (DRDO), etc.

Proposals for airports in U.P.

†*382. PROF. R.B.S. VARMA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.